

Bringing French-style “Elegant Calm” to home decorating

By George Wallace

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Photo by Elisa Dragotto

Elizabeth Pash Antiques & Decoration is now open in Locust Valley.

When it comes to antiques and home decoration, you can now add a little French chic to the lexicon of downtown Locust Valley.

The opening of Elizabeth Pash Antiques & Decoration on Nov. 16 at 94 Forest Avenue — a companion to Pash's 1stdibs New York Design

Center show space at 200 Lexington Ave in Manhattan — means a shop featuring a taste for French furnishings and design, combined with the clean lines of modern pieces. This new offering has joined a strip of shops that is becoming known as a destination for the home decorative arts.

Guests from New York City, Westchester, Long Island and Washington DC, including ESPN anchor Adam Schefter, were on hand to get a first-hand glimpse of Pash's collection that featured a wide variety of 18th and 19th century antiques and decorative objects. The evening was catered by Mar Slocum.

“Locust Valley is a special place for my family and I,” said Pash, who has called the village home for a decade. “I'm thrilled to be part of its design

community. I have a lot of respect for my neighbors at 96 Forest, Meg Braff, Epel and Company, and Le Petit Zebra, and I look forward to working with all of them to continue making Locust Valley a destination for antiques and design.”

Pash, who studied at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana, l'Universite Catholique de l'Ouest in Angers, Parsons School of Design,

NYU and the Isabel O'Neill School for Decorative Painting, will be

joined at her new shop by longtime Locust Valley antiques asset

Catherine McGillicuddy, formerly of Le Canard Rouge.

Pash, who is fluent in French and lived many years in that country, brings a breadth of experience to her shop, including a number of years working at the Smithsonian, in Washington, DC, where she was exposed to an astonishing range of designs and arts, traveling throughout the country and internationally in her work.

Her tastes tend toward the calm, yet elegant, using accent pieces and lighting to create warm, comfortable feel to interiors. “My love of home

(Continued on page 5)

Pash opens design business in town

(Continued from page 1)

design really came from my mother," she recalls. "We lived in a number of different homes when I was growing up, and she always made every room beautiful, mixing fabrics, colors and periods to produce wonderful living spaces. And my affinity for French furnishings and design deepened during the time I lived in France."

She's a design professional who admittedly loves to mix classic and more modern pieces. "I don't think one needs to choose a single look," she declared. "Antiques and mid-century designs can complement one another."

A few years ago Pash was showing at Center 44 in Manhattan. But in 2011 when a 1stdibs showroom opened on the tenth floor of the New York Design Center, she was fortunate enough to get one of the 53 slots for dealers.

"1stdibs started as a website 12-13 years ago, and



Photo by Elisa Dragotto

Elizabeth Pash, left, greeting customers at the opening of her new antiques and decoration store in Locust Valley

was originally just online, but it became so successful that they decided to open a physical showroom," she noted. "I was lucky enough to be chosen out of hundreds who wanted to show there. We're open to the public but sell mainly to dealers. I've had customers from Dallas, and even from France."

With the opening of a space in Locust Valley, lovingly refurbished on two floors by Pash, the designer has a chance to give people a better idea of her style and look. "Sometimes it's not easy when you look at a picture on the computer," she says. "Here, I'm able to share my whole aesthetic in a much better way."